

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted
with Initial Filing

OR

Declaration Submitted
after Initial Filing
(surcharge (37 CFR
1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number: 2A09.1-021
First Named Inventor: THOMAS, Howard

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number: N/A
Filing Date: N/A
Group Art Unit: N/A
Examiner Name: N/A

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

"IMPACT ABSORBING MATERIAL"

the specification of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT

International Application Number

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached? Yes	Certified Copy Attached? No
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.
60/263,644	01/24/2001	<input type="checkbox"/>

DECLARATION-Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)

Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) as my attorneys/agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Customer Number 23506

Place Customer Number
Bar Code Label Here

OR

Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Arthur A. Gardner	33,887	Bradley K. Groff	39,695
Michael J. Mehrman	40,086	Matthew D. Josephic	43,699
John W. Greenwald	41,803	Dawn V. Stephens	44,355
Lisa J. Moyles	40,737		

Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number 23506 Correspondence address below

Name	Bradley K. Groff		
Address	GARDNER GROFF MEHRMAN & JOSEPHIC, P.C.		
Address	Paper Mill Village, Building 23, 600 Village Trace, Suite 300		
City	Marietta	State: Georgia	ZIP: 30067
Country	U.S.	Telephone: 770/984-2300	Fax: 770/984-0098

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor: THOMAS, Howard		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor
Given Name (first and middle if any)	Family Name or Surname	
Howard	THOMAS	
Inventor's Signature	<i>Howard L. Thomas</i>	
Residence	City: Auburn	State: AL
Post Office Address	328 Brookside Drive	
Post Office Address		
City	State: AL	ZIP: 36830
	Country: US	

Additional inventors are being named on the supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) attached hereto.